

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 INR-11 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 NSC-07 SAM-01 AID-20 PM-07 CCO-00 /115 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/P:MWJERABEK/VRM

APPROVED BY CWG:WKONTOS

S/S - O -R. ELTZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL NATO CAPITALS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

INFO USNMR SHAPE

USDOCOSOUTH

EUCOM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CY

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING JULY 25 - CYPRUS

FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT NOON PRESS BRIEFING
JULY 25 DEALING WITH THE SITUATION IN CYPRUS. INCLUDED
IS TEXT OF SECRETARY'S LETTER TO GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER
GEORGE MAVROS, WHICH WAS RELEASED AT THE BRIEFING.

QUOTE:

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THE ONLY ANNOUNCEMENT WE HAVE IS THE TEXT OF THE LETTER

TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER MAVROS, WHICH YOU ALL HAVE. (FOR YOUR INFORMATION, TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS):

"DEAR MR. MINISTER: I WISH TO EXTEND MY WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU AS FOREIGN MINISTER OF GREECE. IT IS INDEED A SPECIAL PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE ABLE TO EXTEND BEST WISHES TO A VALUED FRIEND OF THE UNITED STATES AS YOU ASSUME YOUR DIFFICULT DUTIES AT THIS INITIAL PERIOD. I WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT YOU WILL HAVE MY FULLSET SUPPORT IN YOUR EFFORTS TO REACH AN EARLY PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM.

I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING CLOSELY WITH YOU IN MAINTAINING THE CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS WHICH HAVE TRADITIONALLY EXISTED BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED STATES AND GREECE WARM REGARDS, HENRY A. KISSINGER."(DATED JULY 24).

Q: HAVE THERE BEEN ANY MEETINGS BETWEEN THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR -- TASCA -- AND THE NEW CIVILIAN?

A: YES. HE DELIVERED THIS MESSAGE TO MINISTER MAVROS THIS MORNING.

Q: PERSONALLY?

A: YES.

Q: AND HAVE THERE BEEN ANY MEETINGS WITH KARAMANLIS?

A: YES.

Q: WHEN WERE THOSE?

A: I THINK THAT WAS YESTERDAY.

Q: WAS THAT ONE, TWO? HOW LONG? BETWEEN WHOM? WITH TASCA?

A: WELL, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN WITH TASCA DELIVERING THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS TO PRIME MINISTER KARAMANLIS.

Q: IS THE CEASEFIRE NOW EFFECTIVE IN CYPRUS, ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION?

A: WELL, "EFFECTIVE" -- THE LATEST INFORMATION IS THAT IT'S HOLDING. THE SITUATION IS BETTER THAN IT WAS,

AND, OF COURSE, WE HOPE THAT WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE TREND.

Q: MAKARIOS SAYS HE'S GOING BACK. WHAT STAND DO YOU TAKE ON THAT? WHEN HE GETS BACK, WILL HE BE THE PRESIDENT?

A: I JUST CAN'T SAY.

Q: IS HIS BEATITUDE COMING HERE MONDAY?

A: YES. HE'LL BE HERE MONDAY AFTERNOON. WE'LL GET YOU A TIME.

Q: BACK TO CYPRUS IN A LARGER CONTEXT, I NOTICE THAT NATO SECRETARY-GENERAL LUNS HAD SOME COMMENTS ON WHAT THIS CRISIS AND THE LESSENING OF IT, OR OVERCOMING OF IT, HAS MEANT FOR THE ALLIANCE -- ALSO, WITH THE RETURN OF

POLITICAL GOVERNMENT AND CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT IN GREECE. HAVE YOU ANY PREPARED THOUGHTS ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ON WHAT THIS MEANS FOR THE ALLIANCE -- THE CONSULTATION, THE COOPERATION, AND THE RETURN OF POLITICAL GOVERNMENT TO GREECE FOLLOWING PORTUGAL?

A: WELL, THAT'S QUITE A TALL ORDER. I'M NOT A SEER. BUT, OBVIOUSLY, WE'RE PLEASED WITH RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. I CAN ONLY SAY I HOPE IT AUGERS WELL FOR THE ALLIANCE. END QUOTE INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE162061
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MWJERABEK/VRM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740202-0530
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740717/aaaaanyy.tel
Line Count: 144
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 AUG 2002 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <21 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING JULY 25 - CYPRUS FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT NOON PRESS BRIEFING
TAGS: PFOR, CY, US
To: NATO POSTS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005